MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOD TIMES

VOL. 25 #1 Paw Paw Middle School Halloween 1998 subscription $2.50

LOTS of NEW TEACHERS at MS

Ms. Lindstrom was interviewed by our staff.

Ms. Lindstrom says she likes PPMS. "It's very fun. I'm enjoying p.e.classes as well as my math classes."

Her hobbies include reading a lot and she likes to exercise. Her favorite movie is As Good as It Gets.

She lives in Kalamazoo and went to college at Western. For a favorite football team she says,"I have to be faith ful to the Lions."

Mrs. Lindstrom is married but has no children. She does have a dog named Chipper Jones. by l.p. & b.h.

BASKETBALL: in LAST QUARTER

The 8th grade team this year included the following girls: Kelly Veley, Casey Holzworth, Shawna Mount, Jessica Mendenhall, Tiffanie Davis, Courtney Kuntz, Andrea Selent, Cara Arrans, Cara Garland, and Julie Abnet on A team.

B team included Lisa Dusseljee, Lindsey Frye-Schallhorn, Amanda Sumner, Ty Ruiz, Emily Merz, Bridgett Stump, Loretta Edwards, Amanda Baxter, Megan Adriance, Arlie Owsiany, Ivy Coy, Michelle Zerbi,and Kate Arnold.

7th graders out for basketball included Ashley Surdy, Nicole Surdy, Abby Anderson, Krista Champion, Breanne Hart, Kim Coady, Jamie Warkentien, Rachel Martin, Julie Baltmanis, Jessica Nash, and Jessica Bailly.

The B team were Lauren Peter, Bridget Holcomb, Christy Booth, Kelly Syvester, Kaitlin Peter, Jessica Garrison, Amy Sundlin, Mindy Wolbers, Natasha Woodard, Caroline Miesling, Justine Willis and Kristen Adams.

Great season for all!

FOR A SPOOKY EXPERIENCE, TRY YOUR LIBRARY!

Have you stopped at your library lately? If you haven't , you should. Check out a scarey book to read at a Halloween party or if you decide to not go trick-or-treating, read Halloween or just read it anytime.

If you don't want a scarey book, just get any book. But make sure you take a trip to the library . You'll be surprised what you can find.

WONDER WHAT THE CHOICES WOULD BE FOR FAVORITE MUSIC?

Well, it's not Beethoven. Alternative got 49 votes as the pick of the 200 middle schoolers who were asked. 48 votes went to rock.

Hip hop was third with 35 votes and metal received 31 votes. 16 of you liked punk and 8 chose classic... (Bach maybe) and one person voted for country.

RENATE FÖRTNER VISITS SCHOOL

Mrs. Renate Foertner was our "Mrs. Swanson" . S he was the German exchange teacher and guest of Paw Paw Schools and Mrs. Swanson from Oct. 13 -22. Mrs. Foertner teaches French and English in the town of Emmendingen, Germany.

She first arrived in Detroit on Oct. 10 where she went to see an African- American heritage museum and visited Motown.

While in our area she visited the Kalamazoo Museum and the Van Andel in Grand Rapids.

Mrs. Foertner grew up in Baden-Wurttemburg, a state in the lower southwest corner of Germany. She has been to the U.S. before; 27 years ago she was an au pair for Senator Carl Levin's children. (He wasn't a senator).

While she was here, she taught Mrs. Swanson's German classes and spoke with not only her English classes but also with Mrs. Brown's 7th grade social studies classes.

She handed out lots of penpal letters from her students and PPMS students wrote many more for her to take back to Germany. She said she liked being here - a lot- and she would come back any time she could.and bring her son who is 17. and perhaps her husband.. She was here as part of a teacher exchange between Michigan and Baden-Wurttemburg...an exchange Mrs. Swanson made this summer spending three weeks in Ulm, Germany. by brandie nash etc.

FOOTBALL SEASON HOME GAMES

End Tonight

The 7th and 8thgrade band will accompany the high school band at the last home game of the Redskin varsity season. Hope to see you there.

GOLF CLUB MEETS..

Middle schoolers had the chance to play golf each Wed. this fall with Mrs. A. Smith sponsoring the games.

They wrapped up the season with a tournament with the 9th graders.

Those involved included Ryan Lee, Tim Stewart, Rusty Smead, Matt Zinkil, Robert Wheatley. Jay Corey, Kris Jutiz, Keith Rigoni, Brian Evans, Matt McDaid, Steve Fleckenstein, Neal Conway, Randy Coulson and Mike O'Keefe.

WHAT IS TRUE LOVE'S FIRST SIGN?

" The first sign of love is anger. What we need we're likely to resent." These are the first few lines of a poem that made me think. Maybe those lines are true. I could really love people I thought I hated

Well, if you've ever watched an episode of "Saved by the Bell", then I"'m sure you've seen the scene where the guy and girl fight the whole show but end up making out before it's over. So maybe this statement is true, after all?

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Maybe we all truly love the people we hate. It gives you something to think about. So in the end, maybe we should be the slightest bit nicer to those we despise because after all, we could end up marrying them! by r. beyer

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN

No not time for trick or treat... but for the report cards.... it probably seems like forever but nine weeks is a lot longer than we think...Hope this first card is a treat for you .... and if not, you'll find the trick to improving.

ELECTIONS ! NEXT WEEK!
SO WHO WOULD YOU VOTE FOR?
FIEGER ... or ENGLER? Here's the staff debate between Matt Zinkil and Ryan Thyfault of our editorial staff.
VOTE FOR ENGLER...

This coming election day there are two choices for the governor's race: the incumbent John Engler or Geoffrey Fieger. The clear choice is John Engler. He has had many years of experience as governor whereas Fieger has no experience at anything.

The only thing he is good at is defending the sick and twisted Jack Kevorkian. Fieger was called a "religious bigot" by the Detroit Free Press and also called by numerous other papers an "Inexperienced and poor choice for governor."

If this man gets into office, the state will go down hill. Fieger will instigate his left-wing agenda into this great state's mainstream. He will send our schools, economy and who knows what else into a tailspin.

John Engler , on the other hand, has done many things for this state. He passed a bill, a few weeks ago, with a $51 rebate for each student in a school district which netted our district $112,000.

Democrats and Republicans alike also commend Engler for his leadership of Michigan and the lowest jobless rate in decades.
On the other side, Fieger has made many cowardly attacks against Engler. For example. in one commercial, they depicted our great state's governor as a chicken. In another, he said he would eliminate gangs and violence. Come on, no one can eliminate gangs and violence.

Geoffrey Fieger has promised many things but can he follow through? Does this man have a leg to stand on on moral and ethical grounds? No. All I have to say in conclusion is can you trust Fieger? No.

VOTE FOR FIEGER!..

Geoffrey Fieger is THE MAN for the seat of governor of Michigan. If elected, Fieger would bring grace and style with a care for the Michigan public.

Geoffrey Fieger is a fighter and doesn't stand around waiting for things to change like that marionnette John Engler. The only reason "fuddy-duddy" Engler has stayed in office for two consecutive terms of public

education- bashing is because there was no one like Fieger to stand up for the American (well, the Michigan) people and take a stand on such issues as UAW/GM strikes and, doctor-assisted suicide.

Fieger claims that he would change the public education systems and enhance Michigan's standards. That is why Geoffrey Fieger -defender of all Michiganders- would have my vote on Nov. 3rd if I were of voting age. IT'S FIEGER TIME.

SO ... what do you think? Only four years for many middle schoolers before you too can vote... Think about it.

WEAR LOTS OF WHITE

TOMORROW NIGHT... TRICK or TREAT in SAFETY.

GOOD TIMES STAFFERS

EDITORIAL GROUP: Matt Zinkil, Ryan Thyfault, Ramsey Beyer, Merry Roberts and Tim Taylor

Reporters: Frances Clare, Christine Cashen, Robert Mengel, Josh Frazier, KAtie Tapper, Kim VanSickle, Brian Evans, Casey Holzworth, Joe Motter, Mike Brownell, Brandie Nash, Erin Hamilton, Lisa Dusseljee, Shawna Mount, Stacie Wood, Jessica MEndenhall, Ashley Sparks, Alan Rhoderick, Nick Culp.

6th and 7th grade staff: Brandy Hite, Lauren Peter, Hollie Harvey, Shannon Rice, JEssica Bailly, Kim Coady, Ben Husted, Gordy Roscoe, Megan Thyfault, Mike ASmundson, Allyson Newlin, Alexis Bartoletti, Bret Seymoure, Ashley Schinske.

REDSKIN M.S. FOOTBALL ENDS

Coached by Mr. Rhoderick, Alan Rhoderick's dad, the M.S. Redskins had a full season of action.

The team included Derek Danca, Tim Taylor, Joe Motter, Kyle Kridler, Alan, Zack Tucker, Steve Salefske, Josh Staggs, Rob Coyer, Justin O'Flynn, Ray Bragg, Phil Weaver, Spencer Husted, Josh Pyard , Tim Van Horn, Josh Hauck, Mike Brownell, MAtt Swinehart, Billy Stoughton, MAtt Kilts, Justin Terpstra,and Colby Anderson

ROBERT MEETS THE LIONS

. Robert Wheatley, an eighth grader at PPMS, won a trip to Detroit to see a game and meet the Lions.

"I won this trip through K-Mart. I was completely lucky. When I got the envelope in the mail that said I won, I was shocked. They had switched the trip from Sunday to Saturday but that's ok".

"The events I got to participate in were fun. With the trip I got to meet four of the Detroit Lions and participate in six non-contact events on the field. I also got a tour of the stadium and I was able to kick a 10-yard field goal...and I made it".

" I got to see the weight room and the Lions' locker room. I just can't believe that I won."

WHAT'S HOT and WHAT'S NOT...
the results of a poll involving 300 middle schoolers.

Our favorite shows are Dawson's Creek and Simpsons. Not too hot are Full House and Saved by the Bell.

Our hot pick for movies were Titanic and Urban LEgends. WE were less hot for BArney and Antz.

Leonardo (Caprio..who else?) and Adam SAndler are HOT. Jonathan Taylor Thomas and Bill Cosby are NOT.

Drew Barrymore and Neve Campbell are HOT. ALyssa Milano and Minnie Driver are NOT.

Backstreet Boys / N'Sync and Semi-Sonic are HOT!!! Spice girls and Hanson are NOT!!

BAsketball and Football were seen as hot while polo was not.

Most HOTas a hobby was hanging out with friends... collecting things was not.

WHAT DO YOU THINK THE COOLEST HALLOWEEN COSTUMES ARE ?
Lauren Peter said, "Get four other.... by m. roberts people and dress as Metallica." Hollie Harvey thought "Superman" was a good idea. Brandon Hite suggested ," Brown M & M" while Taylor Wallace like " Green M & M."

Page Sandlin would think of going as "A Chocolate shake from McDonald's".

Dan Peat would go as "Godzilla."

ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER POLL..
(aka "We care what you think.")

We took part in making a small survey of the 7th graders. We asked them three questions.

The first one was ,"Who did you think would be prince and princess this year at Snowfest?" After we gathered all the votes, Alex Stull and Ashley Surdy came in first with Nicole Surdy and Cris Nagel a few points behind.

The second question was ," Which do you like better, 6th or 7th grade?" They voted for 7th grade. As I read , most students felt they had more privileges. I had to agree. Some replied there was too much homework.

The final question was ," Who did they think would be successful in the near future?" A lot of kids had many different people written down. It appeared that Julie Baltmanis would be more successful than any student in the 7th grade.

Lisa Dusseljee and Jessica MEndenhall took this survey to really understand the 7th graders more and how they felt. Thank you.

TEEN LIFE
an opinion

The life of a teen is tough. Half of the time it's a blast but the other half is filled with unbearable pain and sadness. When I see girls fighting with their best friends over the stupidest things it makes me sick.

When I see a girl crying over a lost boyfriend at a football game it makes me wonder why. It wasn't like they were serious or anything. I see guys pushing and punching other guys to make themselves look good in a crowd. What are they trying to prove anyway? What ? That they're better because they can hit harder. Hardly and it's just stupid... the lengths people will go to become popular.

Which leads me to the cliques... They are terrible. We have kids doing all sorts of things... even starving themselves believing that this is what makes them popular. Kids try so hard to be on top that they just completely lose it. I wish there were a way to get rid of these cliques.. a way to get rid of all the pressure your teen years gives you. A teen's life should not be filled with pain...A teenager's life should be filled with great new friendships. great new chances, and great new memories life is sure to give.

I'm glad for one thing... that these pressures haven't yet overloaded me. But for the rest of you that it has, don't worry and don't let these cliques get to you. Don't ruin your future , your life over what other people think and everything will turn out all right in the end.

GREAT TOPIC...CLIQUES and **LIVING WITH THEM** ....

ANY MORE IDEAS? PLEASE WRITE.. c/o Good Times... put them in MRs. Swanson's mailbox or bring to room 203... before Dec. 10... for the next issue... WE'D LOVE TO HEAR HEAR WHAT YOU THINK..

AUTUMN

The sky turns a grey
and the wind takes a toll.
Towards what? Doubt
tis the coming of fall.

The trees turn red
and yellow and gold
leaves scattered along
old lonely dirt roads.

Crisp, cold air
shuddering through the trees
Nevertheless
should it all freeze.

The will twards the way
of the Autumn days
Coming of fall
shortens daylight.

A nip of cold
a shade of color
Autumn's here
farewell to summer...
by. b. figg

WONDER WHAT'S AT THE END OF THE RAINBOW? BOWLING !!!

Right after seventh hour the bowlers go to their lockers, get their stuff and go to the cafeteria where Pam Kern is sitting with a list. We have to write our names on it and then go out to the bus that takes us to Rainbow Lanes.

There we get together with our teams. We are allowed to pick out lane. Once we start bowling they call

us up to get out free pop. Halfway through our first game, Pam comes to collect our money, only $4.

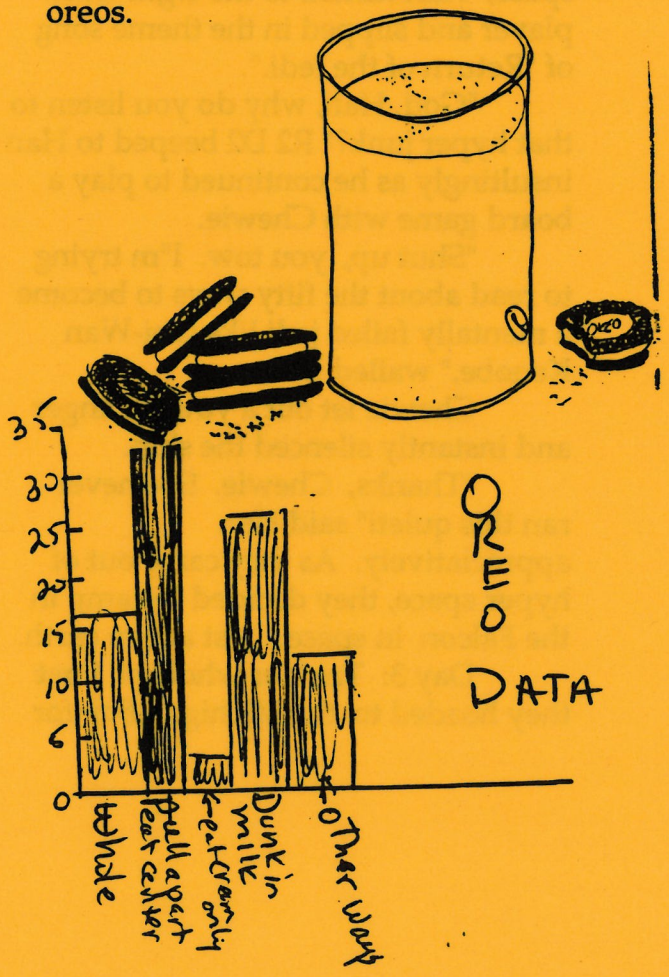
People who don't bring a ball look for one . People who don't have bowling shoes go up to the counter and tell them their shoe size.

We only bowl two games. When we are all done, our parents pick us up. (4 o'clock.).
by s. wendell

EVER WONDER ABOUT OREOS? WHAT IS THE MOST POPULAR WAY TO EAT THEM? by f. clare

Lots of people had strange ways to eat their oreos.

Tim Taylor sings to his oreo. Mrs. Schlarman eats her oreo with ice cream. As you can see from the graph, we all have different ways to eat our oreos.



PROPOSAL B? ARE YOU FOR IT OR AGAINST IT? TWO VIEWS from Ryan Thyfault and Tim Taylor

Proposal B may sound rancid but I believe it is a human's choice to choose life or death. In the second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence the text reads, "Yada yada yada... that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Now I bring to the attention of the reader the unalienable "right of life." Now with this in mind, I don't see why we shouldn't be alotted the unalienable right of death.

Now don't get me wrong. I'm not some suicide-loving sociopath. I, in fact, am against suicide, except if it's within reason. This means an 80 year old woman with cancer could go to Jack Kevorkian (who would finally have a safe haven) and set a date, but a drug-using 15 year-old who's down on his luck couldn't. This isn't necessarily what the regulations have to be, but I believe that Proposal B within reason is good,

Just what the standardsand regulations should be I'll leave to the government in Lansing. But taking what I believe to be the implied meaning of doctor-assisted suicide (within reason), I use this to make up my mind. If it's WITHIN REASON, Proposal B is a -ok.
r.yan thyfault

DEATH TO PROPOSAL B!

Vote NO on B.

For those of you who do not know what Proposal B is, it's making physician-assisted suicide (PAS) legal. In other words, you can go to a doctor and get lethal drugs to kill yourself with. If I could vote I"d vote no on B because I think it is wrong for someone to kill someone else . Period.

Also people who treat dying patients say that after they treat their depression, the requests for PAS goe away.

Proposal B also isolates families. When I say that, I mean the patient's family doesn't need to be notified when the patient takes lethal pills. This is really bad since a person should be with their family for the last hours of their life.

If Proposal B is passed, Michigan will become the murder capital of the United States. While Oregon has PAS legally, no people from other states can come for PAS there. Here they could come from anywhere.

In closing. I believe that Proposal B is spiritually and morally wrong. I believe this because if you believe in the Bible God says you shall not take another's life. If you believe that too, you will feel the same way about Proposal B.

by t.taylor

HAN'S, CHEWIE'S, LUKE'S, and LEIA'S HALLOWEEN SPECIAL EXTRAVAGANZA...by j.frazier

Day1 : The costumes. It was October 28th and the space gang planned to go to earth for the Halloween party. They all dressed as ...well, as themselves. Han was outfitted as he was about to enter the cryogenic freeze. Chewie was all set shampooing his furry body. Once that was done he had to dry it and to keep it from looking like a fluffy doggy, he combed it well. Leia had her hair in the most wonderfully rolled buns ...they were so tight she needed a hearing aid of the highest quality to hear ANY thing. Luke dressed as he did when he fought his father the first time at Bespin.

Day 2: The ride. They all excitedly hopped into the Millenium Falcon and headed off into what Han called " the wild black abyss of space jockey junk." As they reached hyper space, Han turned to the eight-track player and slipped in the theme song of "Return of the Jedi.".

"God, Han, why do you listen to that hyper junk?" R2 D2 beeped to Han insultingly as he continued to play a board game with Chewie.

"Shut up, you tow. I"m trying to read about the fifty ways to become a mentally failed jedi like Obi-Wan Kenobe," wailed Leia.

Chewie let out a yowl of anger and instantly silenced the ship.

"Thanks, Chewie. She never ran this quiet!" said Han appreciatively. As they came out of hyper space, they decided to camp in the Falcon in space... just above earth.

Day 3: Trick or whoops! First they headed to the Michigan Bob for

Apple Festival. They landed the ship in a nearby field and were fined for parking illegally. Han explained he had no idea who Jabba the Hut was.. or why he was so obese to the enquiring officer... and he paid the fine and cut the Folger can ion engines.

First they did bob for apples...then they went trick or treating. Chewie cheated and grabbed up five apples. Leia's big mouth got her amazingly three at once. The rest of the crew got none.

As they exited they noticed a party of storm troopers coming their way. They weren't afraid; they attacked them... All were slain but one who when unmasked was discovered to be a very tall child... all the "troopers" were children. The crew were embarrassed of course and stopped at Meijer's to get multiple bags of candy to make up for the trick or treating they had missed during the fight.

Day 4: Conception. On the return trip the crew ate the three thousand bags of candy they got on special at Meijer's. (Han got a melee weapon though and for that they don't deal...no bargain.) Then Leia screamed in pain... and a monster crawled from her gut.

"Hey! What do you think this is? Space balls? You dummmy!" shouted Han.

"Oh, sorry ," apologized the monster and crawled away.

"Well, anyone care for Pepto Bismal, a stomach pump or a triple coronary bypass?" asked Luke surveying the empty candy bags.

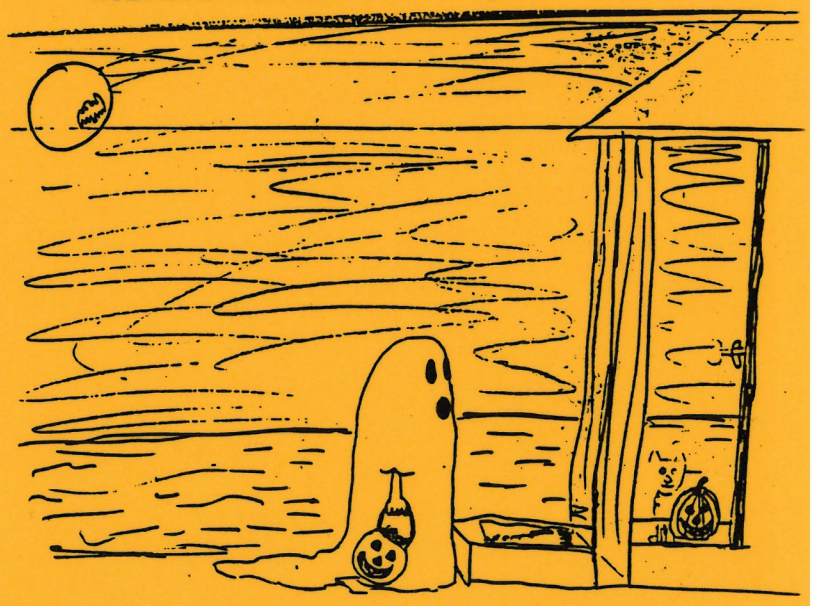
Everyone laughed so hard they died and the ship crashed into a large piece of shrapnel from the Deathstar II.

WHAT'S IT WORTH? by ram z.

Kids get into trouble by trying to rebel. We break the rules to take a stand which only gets us in worse trouble.. We can't change the rules even if they do seem pointless to us. Petitions don't seem to help a bit and having a group of people all break the same rule at once certainly will not help any issue at all.

Authority will also be there to stop us and if they aren't at a particular moment, you luck out. They seem to be around every corner, just a few steps below or peeking out a door. IS it really worth it to break the rules? Rules are here to protect us or usually have logical reasons for being there. Otherwise they wouldn't have been made.

to be continued.... next issue. with a new issue...



Trick or Treat!